

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

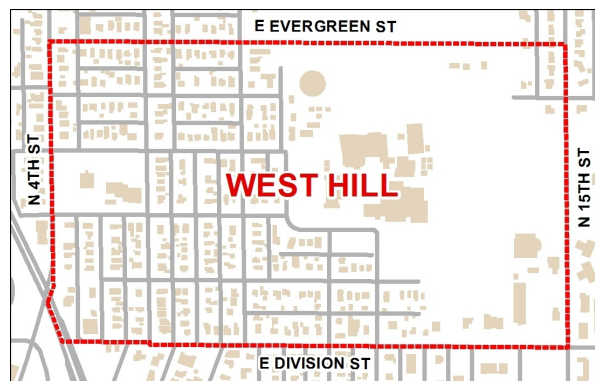


February 2016

We provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

West Hill Neighborhood Resource Officer

Officer Brien Reed is the Neighborhood Resource Officer for the West Hill Neighborhood. This is his first year in this temporary assignment. Mount Vernon Police Department's neighborhood resource officers serve for five years in their assignments before moving back to patrol or into another specialty assignment. The West Hill Neighborhood is responsible the area that extends from N. 4th to N. 15th Street and from East Division to East Spruce Street. Because of its location and complexity, Officer Reed works extensively with the Mount Vernon High School where he serves as the school resource officer.



The Mount Vernon Police Department has a longstanding relationship with the Mount Vernon School District. Officer Reed's activities at the high school include: teaching two criminal justice classes, sitting on school safety and behavior teams, working with school security, creating relationships with students and staff, mediating parent/student conflict and handling the criminal issues that arise on and off campus involving high school-age students.

Officer Reed currently supervises senior projects for 18 twelfth grade students interested in pursuing a career in criminal justice after they graduate. As part of the eight hours needed to complete this graduation requirement, students visited the Mount Vernon Police Department, where they learned about what it is like to be a police officer. Each student participated in a ride along where they experienced firsthand what it is like to be on patrol in Mount Vernon. In addition to this each student participated in a crime prevention project in the community.

In 2016 calls to 911 from the West Hill neighborhood are down 60% from 2015. This speaks volumes to the positive things occurring in this part of the city. Officer Reed works with neighborhood block watches in the area and is very aware of the activities in this neighborhood, both good and bad. In recent months there have been many wonderful things happening in the neighborhood. Whether it be a newly remodeled home, a renewable energy project, an engaging activity at the YMCA, or a Bulldog sporting event this neighborhood is full of life and positive things.

Please feel free to contact Officer Reed through the Police Department, through the high school or via email at brienr@mountvernonwa.gov with issues, concerns, or positive things that are happening in the West Hill Neighborhood. He would love to hear from you and work with you!

Mayor's Coffee Hour

Friday, March 4
9:00 a.m.

Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce
301 W. Kincaid Street

Bring your interests, comments, and concerns to talk about with the Mayor over a cup of coffee.



Thank you to the students, neighbors, volunteers, donors and police officers involved in a community project fixing up fencing on 27th Street

City Council Meetings

**Police/Court Campus
1805 Continental Place**

Regular Council Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month and Study Sessions take place on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm. The public is invited to address City Council on non-agenda items at the beginning of each meeting.

Ward 3 Community Meeting with Councilmembers

**Tuesday, March 15, 6pm
Fire Station 3, 4701 E. Division St.**

Mount Vernon City Councilmembers Bob Fiedler, Mary Hudson and Dale Ragan have scheduled a Ward 3 Community Meeting to encourage community discussion about important issues and to provide residents with the opportunity to voice their questions, concerns or observations about the City.

There is a Ward map on the City's website at www.mountvernonwa.gov or residents may call the Mayor's Office at (360) 336-6211 to determine which Ward they reside in.

Spring Parks & Rec Activities

Check our website

www.mountvernonwa.gov/parks
for Spring Parks and Recreation offerings

Mayor Jill Boudreau
910 Cleveland Avenue
P.O. Box 809
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360.336.6211
www.mountvernonwa.gov



New Pedestrian Beacon

The City partnered with the Hospital to install a pedestrian activated beacon for the crosswalk at 15th and Kincaid Streets. The Hospital funded the purchase of the beacons, posts and signs. The City ordered the components and provided labor for assembly and installation.



The beacons are manufactured by JSF Technologies and consist of two units installed on either side of the crosswalk on top of posts. Each unit has two 8" amber lights, a solar panel, battery pack, and a radio transmitter/receiver.

When a pedestrian wishes to cross, they activate the units with a typical push button. This activates that unit which sends a radio signal to the other unit. They flash the amber lights in unison to alert motorists of a pedestrian using the crossing.

The flashing pattern has several options and the duration the units operate when activated is adjustable. The Hospital's cost for the beacon system was \$6,249 with an additional \$558 for posts and signs.

Public Defense Standards

On February 10, City Council approved Ordinance No. 3674 adopting new Standards for the Delivery of Public Defender Services Pursuant to RCW 10.101.030. Washington State Statute (RCW 10.100.030) requires cities to adopt standards for the provision of public defense services. That statute provides that the Washington State Bar Association's model standards are the default for use by cities. The changes made in our new Ordinance (which repealed Ordinance No. 3556) are based in large part upon the Washington State Bar Association's standards, as well as the bi-annual reports filed with the Federal Court by Court Designated Public Defense Supervisor Eileen Farley. For those interested the Ordinance can be viewed on the City's website www.mountvernonwa.gov by clicking on "City Services" then "Public Defender Services" and then clicking the link under the heading "Public Defense Standards."

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